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16 December 1959

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Present: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Bissell, Mr. Amory,
Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Helms, Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Kent, [redacted]

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MR. DULLES:

a. Reported that at the NSC meeting on 16 December, Attorney General Rogers had raised the question of U. S. policy toward Cuba and in particular what faction, if any, would ultimately receive U. S. support. The Director said Mr. Rogers pointed out that today in Miami there are pro and anti-Castro groups, pro and anti-Batista groups, and just plain Cuban groups, all of which break the law from time to time. Mr. Rogers said that he was somewhat at a loss as to who to prosecute since there is always the chance that the wrong person, insofar as the U. S. is concerned, will be arrested. The Director stated it might be advisable to appoint a task force consisting of representatives from the State Department, Department of Defense, Department of Justice, to include the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the FBI, and CIA, to consider which of these groups might be useful in the long run and to prevent indictment of those who might be of assistance in carrying out whatever policy is determined for Cuba. He remarked if this is not done, we may very well find that the people we want to use have been arrested. Action: Mr. Bissell to take up this problem with J. C. King for a further discussion with the Department of State.

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c. Noted a State Department report, which apparently was one of a series, on the interrogation of the [redacted]
[redacted] and stated this was one of the most fascinating reports he had ever read. He said he was somewhat at a loss to understand why such a report had been put out by CIA in the first instance since, as he understood it, we had conducted the interrogation of this defector. He further pointed out that the report he had just read was some months old, and remarked that information as important as this should have been brought to his attention immediately. The Director also said he would like to know what CIA has done with the information obtained from [redacted] and saw no reason why the contents of the above-mentioned report and similar information could not be openly published since it goes a long way to disproving "The Ugly American."

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MR. BARNES:

Handed to the Director for his signature a proposed letter to Pravda commenting on articles published therein concerning the Director's testimony before The Subcommittee on Economic Statistics of The Joint Economic Committee of The Congress of the United States on 13 November 1959. The Director stated he had some reservation about signing such a letter, particularly in view of his position as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. He said, however, he believed a very useful purpose could be served by the Agency furnishing Congressman Richard Bolling (of the Joint Economic Committee) the Pravda comments in question together with his (DCI's) views thereon, with the suggestion that Congressman Bolling might wish to insert this material in the Congressional Record and possibly direct a letter over his (Bolling's) signature to Pravda.
Action: IG

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MR. KIRKPATRICK:

Reported that Captain Gray, USN (The Joint Staff), had called yesterday and offered to make available to CIA briefings to be given by representatives of the Department of Defense to the Congress for the purpose of checking the intelligence content of such briefings. Mr. Kirkpatrick said Gray had also requested that briefings to be made by CIA to the Congress be furnished Defense. He noted he had pointed out to Gray that this might prove to be somewhat difficult since as a general rule the Director's briefing notes are in preparation up to the last minute in order that they include the latest intelligence information. The Director commented that we should, however, allow representatives of Defense to come over here and see our briefing notes as appropriate, making clear that in most cases the element of time is the only reason such notes are not available beforehand.



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